



LUNESDALE
RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and the
Public Health Inspector
FOR THE YEAR
1971

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Public Health Inspector:
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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR 1971.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lunesdale Rural District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present for your consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of Lunesdale Rural District in respect of the year ending 31st December, 1971. The form and contents follow the usual pattern and are in accordance with Circular 1/72 from the Department of Health.

The estimated mid year population has shown a small downward turn following the more precise data gained at the natural census in the Spring. Thus our population remains about 10,500, whilst the projected estimates for 1981 and 1991 are 13,000 and 15,000 respectively. We have an atypical age-sex structure, in that the proportion of people of ~~pensionable~~ favourable age or above is about half as much again as that for England and Wales as a whole.

Births were considerably higher than in 1970, but were in fact just above the average for the previous five years. Since the end of the war, the highest number of births was 188 in 1964 and the lowest 104, in 1957. The five year averages in that time are:-

1947 - 1951	123
1952 - 1956	117
1957 - 1961	124
1962 - 1966	171
1967 - 1971	170

during which time the estimated population rose from 7,500 to 10,500.

Deaths, too, were much higher, and at 141, were the highest annual figure for as far back as our records go. Since the war, the lowest number was 63 in 1949, and the five year averages are:-

1947 - 1951	83
1952 - 1956	81
1957 - 1961	95
1962 - 1966	112
1967 - 1971	117

However, it can be misleading to try to read too much into absolute figures, particularly with relatively small populations. Rates are more informative. After correcting our crude birth and death rates, to allow for the age-sex structure of the population the adjusted rates become 18.1 per 1,000 population for births, and 9.6 per 1,000 population for deaths. Both compare very favourably with those for England and Wales - 16.0 birth rate and 11.6 death rate.

Applications for personal assistance to improve dwelling properties have been fewer than expected. It is generally considered that national advertising did not reach those for whom it was chiefly intended and certainly, some of the costings illustrated bear little resemblance to reality.

Arrangements were made with neighbouring authorities to use the joint refuse tip at Salt Ayre. This satisfactory solution to a long standing problem will produce many benefits which will outweigh the cost of the long hauls entailed.

For the last time, I will mention Brucellosis. "The strife is o'er the battle done." It has been a long struggle between milk producers and Medical Officers of Health, with the politicians making demands and excuses, depending on which side of the House they happened to be sitting during the session: whilst people continued to become infected, incapacitated and sometimes interred, due to Undulant Fever contracted from contaminated raw milk. However, like an exciting serial story, - "what will the Ministry do next?" having passed through the episodes of Accredited Herds and financial rewards, we have now the distinction of being in the first Eradication Area. Brucellosis will thus become an unpleasant memory, as has cattle tuberculosis, where we are now in the situation that if a cow is found to be producing T.B. positive milk, we look for a human source.

Our range of interests cover every fact of life, with the aim of providing the community with the acme of health and happiness. More recently, our thoughts have been turning to noise abatement, rural transport and pollution due to the by-products of industry. In a little under two years time, the post of Medical Officer of Health will be abolished, ending a century of association between the medical profession and the local authority. It is to be hopeful that some means will be found whereby a doctor's opinion can still be sought, when something is happening likely to affect the health of the community.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

J.V. Dyer.
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF THE AREA

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

AREA of the District (Acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	76,267
POPULATION { Census 1951}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,351
{ Census 1961}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,224
{ Census 1971}	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,739
POPULATION (Registrar General's Estimate mid-1971)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,660
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES:-									
According to Rate Book (1951)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,091
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES:-									
According to Rate Book (1971)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,730
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE (1971)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.88
NUMBER OF HOUSES PER ACRE (1971)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.05
NUMBER OF PERSONS PER ACRE	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.14
RATEABLE VALUE 1971	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£434,823.
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£4,110.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, INCLUDING CHIEF
OCCUPATIONS OF INHABITANTS

The social conditions of the District are reasonably satisfactory and the chief occupations of the inhabitants are:-

Agriculture

Manufacture of Textiles

Limestone Quarrying

Brick Manufacture

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS 1971.

Live Births.

			Male	Female	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	103	68	171
Illegitimate	..	..	6	2	8
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			109	70	179
Still Births	..	..	2	1	3
Total Live and Still Births	..	..	111	71	182

Deaths.

All Causes	..	..	70	71	141
Maternal deaths	..	..	-	Nil	Nil
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	..	..	2	1	3
Neo-natal deaths (under 4 weeks)	..	..	1	1	2
Early neo-natal deaths (under 1 week)	..	..	1	Nil	1

Rates.

Live Births crude rate	..	..	16.8	for 1000 population
adjusted rate	..	..	18.1	" " "
Still Births	..	..	16.0	for 1000 total births
Deaths crude rate	..	..	13.2	for 1000 population
adjusted rate	..	..	9.6	" " "
Infant mortality rate	..	..	17.0	for 1000 live births
Neo-natal mortality rate	..	..	11.0	" " "
Early neo-natal mortality rate	..	..	6.0	" " "

TABLE SHOWING CLASSIFICATION OF
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1971

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	2	5
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	3	-	3
Other malignant neoplasm	4	5	9
Diabetes, Mellitus	-	2	2
Mental disorders	-	1	1
Multiple sclerosis	1	-	1
Diseases of nervous system	2	1	3
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	2	2
Hypertensive disease	2	1	3
Ishaemic heart disease	26	14	40
Other heart disease	3	1	4
Cerebro vascular disease	4	21	25
Other circulatory disease	2	3	7
Pneumonia	4	6	10
Bronchitis and emphysema	3	1	4
Peptic ulcer	1	-	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	1	1
Nephritis, nephrosis	-	2	2
Other diseases of Genito - urinary system	-	1	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	1	1
Congenital abnormalities	-	1	1
Birth injury, Difficult labour etc..	1	-	1
Symptoms and ill defined diseases	-	-	-
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	3	3	6
Suicide & self inflicted injuries	1	-	1
Total Deaths from all Causes	70	71	141

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1971 AND THE PERIOD 1966 - 1970.

Year	Estimated Population registered	Live births		Deaths (all causes)		Still Births		Infant Mortality.			
		Crude Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. registered	Crude Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Total	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births
1971	10660	179	16.8*	141	13.2*	3	16	38	14	3	17
1970	10820	144	13.3	118	10.9	Nil	1	7	1	1	7
1969	10770	186	17.3	114	10.6	4	21.0	6	32.0	4	22.0
1968	10468	161	15.4	107	10.2	3	18.0	4	25.0	3	19.0
1967	9950	178	17.9	106	10.7	2	11.0	2	11.0	Nil	Nil
1966	9720	158	16.3	125	12.9	3	18.6	2	12.7	1	6.3
Average 5 years 1966-1970		-		16.0		-		11.1		-	
		-		-		-		13.7		-	
		-		-		-		17.5		-	
		-		-		-		-		10.9	

*Adjusted
} } }

Live birth rate (comparability factor, 1.08) = 18.1 per 1,000
death rate (comparability factor, 0.73) = 9.6 per 1,000

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH AND WELFARE

SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Ambulance Service

Lancaster Ambulance Station. Telephone Lancaster 3311.

Clinics.

1. Child Welfare Centres.

- (a) Hornby, Village Institute, alternate Thursday, 2 to 4 p.m.
- (b) Caton Institute, every Wednesday, 2 to 4 p.m.
- (c) Halton, The Clinic, Penny Stone Road, Halton, every Thursday, 2 to 4 p.m.
- (d) Carnforth, Market Street, every Tuesday, 2 to 4 p.m.

2. Dental.

- (a) Market Street, Carnforth; Every Thursday, by arrangement.
- (b) Ashton Road Clinic, Lancaster, Daily, by arrangement.

3. Immunisation and Vaccination.

- (a) Protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis and measles is provided free of charge at Child Health Clinics in the District. Appointments arranged as required.
- (b) The same services can also be provided free by the General Medical Practitioners in the area.

4. Ophthalmic.

Market Street, Carnforth; Alternate Friday mornings.

5. Minor Ailments.

Market Street, Carnforth; Friday mornings, 9.30 to 11.30 a.m.

Rylands House, Lancaster; Every morning 9.30 to 10.30 a.m.

6. Speech Therapy.

Ashton Road Clinic, Lancaster: by appointment.

Ryelands House, Lancaster: by appointment.

Convalescence.

Arrangements can be made through the Divisional Health Office, Slyne Road, Lancaster, for the admission of children and adults to convalescent or recuperative homes. This service is not normally free of charge.

Health Visiting Service.

Full time nurses are employed in the area by the Lancashire County Council to carry out duties as health visitors and school nurses.

Home Help Service.

Home Helps are available to provide help in the home for persons who are incapacitated by illness, old age and infirmity, confinement, etc. Those who can afford to pay for this service are required to do so according to their means.

Home Nursing and Midwifery.

Full-time nurse/midwives, who combine the duties of direct nursing and domiciliary midwifery, are available within the District.

Laboratory Service.

Samples of water, milk and specimens in connection with infectious diseases are dealt with at the Public Health Laboratory at Preston Royal Infirmary.

Samples of water for chemical analysis are sent to the Public Analyst at County Hall, Preston.

Mental Health Service.

Social Workers working in close co-operation with general practitioners and consultant psychiatrists provide supervision and after-care for the mentally subnormal living in the community and for mentally ill persons after discharge from hospital.

An Adult Training Centre in Torrisholme provides training for the mentally handicapped and a Junior Hostel in Lancaster is available for permanent or short-stay cases.

Other Community Services.

The following Services are provided by the Lancashire County Council.

(1) Residential Accommodation.

For elderly persons in need for care and attention not otherwise available to them, permanent accommodation is provided in the following Homes for the Aged: Dolphine, Fair Elms, The Laurels and Beaumont View at Lancaster; the Empress at Morecambe; Moor Platt and the Hermitage at Caton; Slyne House, Slyne-with-Hest. Short term care for two weeks is also available in certain circumstances.

(2) Care of Aged Person in Their Own Homes.

The domiciliary services provided by the County Council have been expanded, where necessary, so as to provide adequate home nursing help in the home and general support in conjunction with any local voluntary organisation, to enable old people to continue to live in their own homes as long as possible. A laundry service and free chiropody service are also available.

(3) Handicapped Persons.

Registers are maintained for the blind and the deaf for whom certain welfare services are made available through the agency of voluntary organisations. Other classes of Physically Handicapped persons, are provided with occupational therapy, chiropody, transport to social centres, holidays etc.

(4) Care of Children and Young Persons.

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASE

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1971

Diseases	Total Cases	Age Period - Years										Age Un-known
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 and over		
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	7	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Cases	9	-	2	-	2	1	2	-	-	1	-	1

Diseases	Total Cases	Age Period - Years												
		0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	45-	55-	65-	75-	Age Un-known
Infective Jaundice	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

Diseases	Total Cases	Age Period - Years						65 and over	Age Unknown
		0-	5-	15-	45-				
Food Poisoning	3	1	-	2	-			-	-

TUBERCULOSIS - 1971

There have been no cases notified during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifications of infectious disease decreased from 54 in 1970 to 15 in 1971. The 7 cases of measles compared with 48 in 1970 and 3 in 1969 could be a normal variation in incidence but next year, when in theory, a further epidemic is due, should show whether the vaccine, introduced in 1968, is effective.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION SCHEMES.

Under the National Health Service, a comprehensive immunisation and vaccination service is provided free of cost. At present protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, smallpox, tuberculosis, measles, and German measles is available for children at school clinics and child welfare centres. This service is available also from family doctors except for vaccination against tuberculosis.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus by means of a triple vaccine is simple and quick and poliomyelitis vaccine can now be given by mouth at the same time. The number of children in Lunesdale so protected over the past six years is given on the next page. Whilst reasonably good, I should have preferred much higher figures.

The following figures, which relate to the whole divisional area show the percentage of young children vaccinated or immunised as at 31st December, 1971:- Smallpox 20% of children under 2 years of age; for children born in 1969, poliomyelitis 72%, whooping cough 66%, diphtheria 72%.

There has been a reduction in the smallpox "acceptance" rate, which is entirely due to a change of Government policy in mid-year when routine vaccination of young children was no longer advised as a routine measure.

IMMUNISATION CARRIED OUT 1966-71.

Number of individuals, aged 0-15 years, who completed a full course of primary immunisation.

	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Tetanus
In Year			
1971	158	130	163
1970	169	139	171
1969	121	108	128
1968	113	93	113
1967	150	120	152
1966	184	171	187

Number of individuals, aged 0-15 years, who were given a reinforcement injection.

	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Tetanus
In Year			
1971	217	24	286
1970	216	43	266
1969	305	30	323
1968	333	30	342
1967	366	53	367
1966	326	83	267

POLIOMYELITIS.

Number of individuals, aged 0-15 years who have completed a full course of primary vaccination in 1971 162

Number of individuals, aged 0-15 years who were given a reinforcement dose in 1971 258

MEASLES.

Number of individuals, aged 0-15 years who have completed a full course of primary vaccination in 1971 108

RUBELLA (German Measles).

Number of individuals, under 16 years who had vaccinations against rubella - completed in 1971 60

SECTION D

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE AREA.

TABLE 1.

ALL VISITS DURING THE YEAR.

Caravan Sites	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Civic Amenities Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Factory Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Food Hygiene	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	96
Food Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Food & Drugs Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Housing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	235
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Interviews and Other Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	106
Milk Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Noise Abatement Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Offices and Shops Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	73
Petroleum Regulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Poultry Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	245
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Shops Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53
Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99
<hr/>														
Total Number of Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1152

TABLE 2.

Houses Provided during the Year - Newly Erected and Conversions.

		Total
(a)	Council Houses	..
(b)	Buildings Converted to Houses	..
(c)	Private Houses	..
(d)	Mains Water Provided	..
(e)	Private Water Supplies	..
(f)	Connected to Sewer	..
(g)	Connected to Septic Tank	..

TABLE 3.

1. INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1. (a) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	96
(b) Number of Inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	355
(c) Number of Dwelling-houses in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.. . .	93
2. Total number of dwelling-houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit approx 9	

2. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

	Houses closed	Displaced during year. Persons Families
(i) Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957	Nil	- -
(ii) Under Sections 17 (3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	Nil	- -
(iii) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957 ..	Nil	- -

3. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED.

(i) After informal action by Local Authority	57
(ii) After formal notice under:-	
(a) Public Health Acts	Nil
(b) Section 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	Nil
(iii) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	Nil
4. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (HOUSING ACT, 1957)	Nil
5. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT	Nil

The Planning restrictions and the general high prices paid for houses in this district coupled with Improvement Grants now mean that sub-standard properties are in demand and purchasers are willing to spend large sums to modernise and make fit these houses.

An undetermined number of owner/occupied and tenanted houses are substandard mainly by the lack of standard amenities such as baths, hot water etc., and it is hoped that the owners of these properties will take advantage of the Improvement Grants.

No statutory cases of overcrowding were reported during the year, the low standards laid down by the Housing Acts allowing for numerous occupants to reside in the smallest dwelling.

TABLE 4.

1. HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958, AND HOUSING ACT, 1969.

Improvement Grants	Owner Occupier.	Tenanted.
(i) Number submitted by private individuals	23	8
(ii) Number approved	21	8
(iii) Work completed	23	7
(iv) Additional separate dwellings included in (iii) above ..	2	2
(v) Amount paid in grants ..	£11584	£4241
(vi) Average amount per house	£501	£606

2. HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959, AND HOUSING ACTS 1961, 1964 and 1969.

Standard Grants	Owner Occupier	Tenanted
(i) Number submitted by private individuals	5	1
(ii) Number approved	5	1
(iii) Number refused	-	-
(iv) Number of dwellings improved	4	1
(v) Amount paid in grants ..	£1019	£214
(vi) Average grant per house	£255	£214

This has been the first full year since the maximum Improvement Grant increased from £400 to £1000. The numbers of applications have decreased by 3 but the average amount per house has increased, by £163 for owner/occupiers and £106 for tenanted properties. I am disappointed that more use of the standard grant provisions is not made by owners of sub standard properties.

TABLE 5

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Refuse is collected weekly from most of the District. Outlying districts have a fortnightly collection and the six fell farms on Roeburndale are collected quarterly. This regular collection enables farmers, living in inaccessible places for the vehicle, to take refuse to the milk stand knowing that it will be collected within hours.

The present fleet of refuse vehicles consist of two 16/20 cubic yard Paxitt compression vehicles, one 18 cubic yard "fore and aft" S & D tipper and one 16 cubic yard "fore and aft" Karrier tipper in reserve.

Refuse disposal on Caton Moor ceased in July. The climatic conditions and man power shortage were against controlled tipping and the Council decided to look elsewhere. Following discussions with Lancaster City, and Morecambe Borough Council, it was agreed that this Council carried refuse to the joint tip at Salt Ayre and paid 11% towards the upkeep of the tip. This has increased the haulage from some parts of the District but the wear and tear on vehicles has been reduced by avoiding the hard climb up to Caton Moor. The former tip on Caton Moor was covered with soil and the land has since been seeded.

Indiscriminate dumping in hedgerows, woods and fells still continues. The material is collected wherever possible, but not before the Police have had an opportunity to trace the offenders. A number of Prosecutions by the Police resulted in small fines being imposed.

Six cars were abandoned during the year, one owner removed his vehicle when warned of a possible prosecution and another was prosecuted and was fined £10 with £8, 50p costs. The owners of the remaining four cars could not be traced.

TABLE 7.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Details of present methods of sewage disposal in the various parishes are shown below, and I am indebted to Mr. D.H. Maud, the Engineer and Surveyor for this information:-

Arkhholme, Borwick, Burrow and Cantsfield.

There are no sewerage systems in these villages, but the majority of the properties are served by individual septic tank drainage. Consideration is currently being given to the provision of a mains drainage system and sewage treatment works in Arkholme.

Caton.

The main centres of population of Caton and Brookhouse drain to a sewage treatment works situated near to the River Lune. A scheme for the extension of this works to cope with the overload caused by the new development has been approved by the Department of the Environment. In addition to providing new sedimentation tanks, humus tanks and new filters, special consideration has been given to the method of de-watering the sewage sludge by mechanical means rather than by the more usual method of air-drying on sludge drying beds. The machine which will be installed, will be capable of dealing with all the sludge from the extended works, and in addition, with sludge brought in from certain other works where drying is proving difficult.

Claughton.

A new sewage treatment plant, serving the Fenwick Arms, Claughton Rectory and the Council houses, was built in 1970 and is now working very satisfactorily. A private disposal works serves a terrace of dwellings opposite the brick-works, and the majority of the remaining properties are drained to septic tanks.

Gressingham.

No sewerage system is available but the majority of the dwellings have been modernised and drained to septic tanks.

Halton.

The village is now served by two sewage treatment works viz:-

The original works situated near to the old railway station on the south bank of the River Lune which receives sewage from the eastern section of Halton, and the new works sited adjacent to the Bridging Camp on the north bank of the river taking sewage from the western half of the village.

This latter works also provides capacity for dealing with the sewage from 1000 personnel on the camp itself, and came into operation in September, 1967.

Hornby.

The village is served by a sewage disposal works sited on the south bank of the River Wenning, and the Council's Consulting Engineers have prepared a scheme for the extension of the works, to enable it to deal adequately with the village as a result of development in recent years and possible future development.

Ireby.

No sewerage system is provided in this somewhat scattered parish and properties where modernised have been drained to individual septic tanks.

Nether Kellet and Over Kellet.

Sewerage systems and sewage treatment works are provided in both villages and each works is now adequately dealing with the total population for which it was designed.

Lowgill.

One small septic tank in the ownership of the Council serves several properties in the village centre.

Leck, Melling, Wrayton, Roeburndale, Tatham, Tunstall and Wennington.

No sewerage systems are provided in these parishes, some being so sparsely populated in relation to their acreage as to preclude any possibility of such services being provided. Properties where modernised have been provided with septic tanks. Consideration is currently being given to the possibility of providing mains drainage in Melling and Wennington.

Whittington.

This village is served by a sewerage system and a treatment works which deals with the foul sewage from all properties in the village itself. No direct discharge from the works into the River Lune takes place, the effluent being taken to a large land drainage area sited between the works and the river.

Wray.

The village is served by a sewage treatment works of modern design which copes very satisfactorily with the present flows from the village.

WATER SUPPLIES

Mains water throughout the district is supplied by the Lune Valley Water Board and approximately 80% of the dwellings are connected.

The chief source of supply is obtained from Manchester Corporation's Thirlmere Acqueduct from which five tappings have been made to serve the district.

The reservoir receiving upland surface and water from the river Lune at Brookhouse supplies Caton and Brookhouse. This supply was extended to the reconditioned reservoir at Wray which had not been in use since the floods, and then to the villages of Wray and Hornby. Lowgill receives a supply of water from a bore and parts of Quernmore receive treated water from one of the Board's reservoirs serving the City of Lancaster. Several properties on the boundaries of Lancaster obtain water from the Lancaster City mains and some farms in the Tatham area obtain mains water from Yorkshire.

Some 47 new dwellings were connected during the year to mains water supply.

TABLE 8

The following figures are an estimate of the number of properties in each parish served by mains and private water supplies.

Parish	From Public Mains		Private Supplies	
	No. of Houses	Population Served	No. of Houses	Population Served
Arkholme-with-Cawood	93	228	13	59
Borwick	58	153	1	4
Burrow-with-Burrow	46	130	7	17
Cantsfield	22	77	1	5
Caton-with-Littledale	977	2734	42	126
Claughton	45	143	2	12
Gressingham	49	129	1	4
Halton-with-Aughton	816	2351	4	16
Hornby-with-Farleton	227	557	2	9
Ireby	20	62	1	4
Nether Kellet	204	616	3	8
Over Kellet	222	673	11	31
Leck	55	168	5	17
Melling-with-Wrayton	90	263	-	-
Quernmore	97	305	86	277
Roeburndale	-	-	21	80
Tatham	59	188	56	201
Tunstall	29	73	5	15
Wennington	44	144	-	-
Whittington	84	242	19	56
Wray-with-Botton	136	422	16	74
Total Whole District	3373	9658	296	1015

TABLE 9

Samples of Water submitted for Bacteriological Examination

	Total	Laboratory Report	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Borwick	5	5	-
Caton and Brookhouse	18	18	-
Hornby and Wray ..	19	19	-
Halton	6	6	-
Regional	19	19	-
Kellets	9	9	-
Lowgill	4	4	-
Quernmore	6	6	-
	86	86	-

This has been a most satisfactory year for bacteriological sampling. No unsatisfactory samples were taken although there have been a number of complaints from residents in Wray and Hornby that the quality was not good. This was due to the hardness of the water compared with the previous supply from Thirlmere. Some complaints of dirty water were found by the Board to be due to silt in dead ends of mains and the water became clean after flushing the main. The mains water supplying dwellings in Quernmore is now treated and the unsatisfactory samples have dropped from 80% to nil as a result.

Private Water Supplies

Nine samples were taken from private supplies during the year. There are approximately 300 dwellings in the district using water from private sources, and the majority of these are isolated farmhouses where public water will never be supplied, or at least, not in the foreseeable future. Where milk herds are kept, the water supplies to the farm are checked for bacteriological quality by the various Government bodies concerned, and sampling of private water supplies has, therefore, been limited during the year to private houses, etc.

Where application for grant aid under the Housing Acts is made in respect of dwellings on private water supplies, the approval thereof is now made conditional to the supply either being brought up to the necessary standard or for filters to be provided, if after works of improvement have been carried out the supply is still sub-standard.

MILK SUPPLIES.

There are approximately 34 producer-retailers of milk in the district and some half-dozen registered dealers. Several shops in the area are also registered for the sale of milk, these being mainly pasteurised supplies from the main dairies.

Routine sampling of raw milk supplies was carried out at regular three monthly intervals.

A total of 209 samples were submitted during the year for examination. Of these samples 9 were positive to the Culture test for Brucella Abortus. All the affected cattle were slaughtered.

I am disappointed that there are still some producer-retailers which have not an Accredited Herd under the Brucellosis (Accredited Herds) Scheme, although the Ministry of Agriculture have now announced that an eradication area will shortly be in operation which takes in that part of this District north of the River Lune.

TABLE 10.

FOOD SHOPS AND CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS.

The total number of food premises within the area is 75, details of which are given below:-

General Grocers and Provision Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	23
Green-grocers and Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	..	2
Meat Shops	..	..	..	..	..	5
Bakers and/or Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	3
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	3
Shops selling mainly Confectionery, Minerals etc.	..	..				8
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Canteens, Cafes, etc.	..	..				31

Of the above premises, 31 are registered for the sale of ice-cream and 5 for the sale of cooked meats.

The general trend of modern packaging and storing of foodstuffs has been maintained in the District. Owners of food premises are still modernising their storage facilities and there is a genuine desire by them to be hygienic.

It is hoped that the present high standard of food premises will be maintained in the future, not only because of the legal requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, but also through a genuine desire of the retailer to provide good and sound food to his customers.

TABLE II

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

	No. of Registered Premises	No. receiving a General Inspection	No. of Exemptions
Offices	7	-	-
Retail Shops	17	17	-
Wholesale Premises ..	-	-	-
Catering Establishments	9	9	-
Fuel Storage Depot.	-	-	-
	33	33	-
Number of Visits of all kinds to Registered Premises:		39	

Designed to improve working conditions of employees in offices, shops and other sundry premises, the above Act gives the local authority wide powers to ensure the provision of adequate lighting, heating, ventilation, sanitary accommodation, drinking-water and first aid equipment. Prevention of accidents is also covered by detailed legislation requiring such things as guards on machinery, staircases, floor openings, etc.

There are 33 registered premises in the Lunesdale Rural Area and of these 26 were inspected during the year. The majority of establishments were fully in compliance with the requirements of the Act.

IMPORTED FOOD REGULATIONS 1968.

In these regulations, if a Port Health Authority is satisfied that imported food in sealed containers is going to one person in an inland area, they do not examine the food but notify the Inspector of the area of destination who has a duty to examine this food.

Some 17410 chickens, 19cmts. livers and 2 quarters of necks have been delivered in the District by this method during the year. The examination of this food takes place at the time of delivery to the firm.

TABLE 12.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

PART I of the Act.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises.	No. on Register	Inspec-tions	No. of Written Notices	Occu-piers Prose-cuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	11	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	31	11	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	-	-	-	-
Total	42	13	-	-
2. Cases in which Defects were found			Nil	
3. Cases in which Defects were remedied			Nil	

PART VIII of the Act - Outwork

There are no registered outworkers in the district.

TABLE 13.

RODENT CONTROL.

Rodent control is carried out on a part-time basis by the foreman in control of the refuse collection service.

Contract services to farms and business premises are available at modest cost and private households are treated free.

The regular inspections of contract premises has again shown that rats can be kept to the minimum. There have been no cases of major infestations during the year.

Action relating to rodent control during the year ended
31st December, 1971.

	Non-Agri- cultural	Agricultural.
(1) No. of properties	3243	481
(2) No. of properties inspected following notification.	51	99
(3) No. of properties found to be infested by:		
Rats	47	99
Mice	4	2
No. of properties inspected other than by notification	45	73

CARAVANS.

There are 35 registered caravan sites in the district containing a total of 384 caravans at the peak holiday periods of mid-summer. Of this total of 384 caravans some 47 are on residential sites and occupied during the whole of the year.

The main sites in the district are as follows:-

Scarthwaite, Crock o'Lune	100	Seasonal
Wegber Quarry, Capernwray	180	Seasonal
Intack Farm, Nether Kellet	36	Seasonal
Greyhound Hotel Site, Halton	19	Residential

The remaining 49 caravans are situated on small sites with up to 5 caravans each and numerous other sites, with individual caravans.

On all sites of over 5 caravans conditions are specified in accordance with model standards, based on those issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Smaller sites are required to conform with a lower standard, covering water supply, sanitary accommodation and refuse disposal facilities.

Seasonal site licences are issued for the site to be occupied between March and October each year. One owner of such a site was successfully prosecuted for allowing his site to be occupied out of season.

Some itinerant camping in tents does take place from time to time, but there are no regular sites in use within the district.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, confer powers on the local authority to prevent or minimise the pollution of the atmosphere from smoke emitted from domestic and industrial chimneys.

Industry in Lunesdale is concentrated in the main in the western end of the district, and observations have been made during the year on emissions from smoke stacks serving the main industrial premises. No contraventions of the regulations were noted but several routine visits were made to boiler plants as a precautionary measure.

No smoke control orders have been made or considered by the Council, and indeed with the exception of the parishes of Caton and Halton, are not necessary in an area where the population is spread as thinly as 0.14 to the acre. It might well be that with the continued growth of Caton and Halton some form of smoke control will be necessary in the future.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no public swimming baths in the area, but several private pools do exist at Leck, Tunstall, Gressingham and Capernwray. The pool at Capernwray is situated in a caravan site and was completed at the end of the year. Samples of this water will be taken during the coming season.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS.

There are no byelaws governing the standards of hygiene of hair-dressing establishments in the area, although powers are contained in the Public Health Act, 1961, to enable the Council to make them.

Most establishments are, however, visited regularly for inspection under the Shops Act, 1950 or the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, and on all occasions have been found to be satisfactory.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades carried on in the district.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There are none in the district.

CANAL BOATS.

There are no canal boats passing through the district as defined by the Public Health Act, 1936. Pleasure craft, however, do use the canal that passes through the parishes of Borwick and Over Kellet but these are exempt from any legislation. In the event of any of this type of craft being moored on a permanent basis they would then come under the scope of the Planning and Public Health Acts.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT

Action can now be taken against excessive noise either by the local authority or by a group of at least three citizens affected by the noise.

One complaint was received during the year, and the nuisance was abated after informal action.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956.

This Act enables local authorities to require the provision of suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation for employees on farms etc.

Inspections under this legislation are made when premises are visited for such matters as milk sampling and routine checks on water supply, etc.

SCHOOLS.

There are 14 schools in the district and most of these were visited during the year. Seven establishments are connected to the main sewer and seven to private works.

All the schools are provided with mains water, except one at Quernmore which is served with a private supply. In the case of the Quernmore school adequate treatment by modern plant is provided and on all occasions when sampled the water was bacteriologically satisfactory.

